908 Chamberlain Highway

1885

Victorian

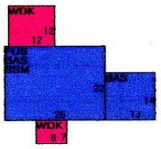
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 011

1885 current owners: Stephen and Gladys Klotz Victorian

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1890 current owners: Angel & Bangie Medina

Sketch



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#011

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Town No.: | Site No.:
UTM
QUAD:
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR | IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)

2. TOWN CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE | COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 908 Chamberlain Highway 14-3/13/17

4. OWNER(S): Klotz, Stephen Jr. & Gladys " " Kensington 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private

5. USE (Present): Residence (Historic): Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1885

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☒ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☒ Brick foundation ☐ Other (Specify) _____
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify) _____

10. ROOF (Type)
☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify) _____

(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☒ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 43' x 26'

12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated | (Exterior): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations): ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☒ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In an area of Chamberlain with many 19th century houses.

011

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC
DATE: 11/84
VIEW: NW
NEGATIVE ON FILE: G14

COMPILED BY

NAME: Historic Resource Consultants
DATE: 12/84
ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory
ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06108

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

This house has a three-bay facade with a central entry protected by a one-story porch with a two-and-one-half story entry bay topped by a pedimented peak. The central entry is flanked by two semi-hexagonal bays. Windows are generally fitted with 1-over-1 sash. The full-width porch is supported on fluted square posts; a framed-in portion with 8-pane casement windows wraps around the left corner of the house. Above the porch is a balustrade; the central entry pavilion features a second-floor apron with decorative wood shingles, a radial-glazed semi-circular fanlight and fishscale shingles in the peak. The main roof gables on both side elevations show a wide, plain frieze above a narrow molding, imbricated shingles, a Palladian attic light, and a framed-in peak with a sunburst design.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

SIGNIFICANCE

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Architecturally, this house is significant as an interesting example of a dwelling probably dating from the early 19th century but subjected to an idiosyncratic Victorian remodelling. The ridge-parallel orientation, tall profile, and simple rectangular plan all point to early 19th-century origins, but the semi-hexagonal bays, porch detailing, and decorated gable peaks are all typical of Victorian Vernacular architecture. The characteristic decorative woodwork of this style was made affordable by 19th century advances in wood-forming technology.

Oliver D. Kent, who listed his occupations as carpenter (the modern equivalent would be "builder") and farmer, probably remodelled this house in the last years of the 19th century before selling it to Otto and Eva Youngblad (also seen as Jungblad) in 1905. Kent, extremely active in the late 19th-century real-estate market, bought and sold numerous parcels in Berlin.

SOURCES

1880 Census
1900 Census
Berlin Land Records 48:167 (1905)